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From: Kate H. Murashige

Date: November 19, 1998

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Comments: Attached is an Amendment Under 37 CFR § 1.111 for Serial No. 08/913,960. Thank you.

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Docket No. 391442000200**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

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Lisa R.F. Barber**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the application of:

MURRER et al.

Serial No.: 08/913,960

Filing Date: 2 January 1998

For: PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITION
CONTAINING SELECTED
LANTHANUM CARBONATE
HYDRATES

Examiner: D.C. Jones

Group Art Unit: 1614

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office action herein mailed 11 September 1998, time for response to which was set to expire 11 December 1998. The pending claims, claims 1-9 were rejected or objected to. Applicants appreciate the courtesy and thoughtfulness extended their undersigned representative in an interview regarding this application on 18 November 1998. The grounds for rejection have been carefully considered and the following amendment and discussion are offered in response. Indication at the interview of the allowability of the subject matter of claims 7 and 8 (method to prepare the claimed hydrates) and claims 10-13 (methods to treat hyperphosphataemia using the hydrates) is greatly appreciated. However, for completeness of the record, the following discussion addresses these claims as well as claims 1-3 and 5 (claims to pharmaceutical compositions). Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

dc-136963

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